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(NE)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit : 1734
Examiner : Brenda A. Lamb
Serial No. : 09/628,405
Filed : August 1, 2000
Inventors : Ichiro Tanokuchi
: Sachihito Iida
Title : GAS WIPING APPARATUS
: AND METHOD

Customer No.: 035811

Docket No.: 1299-00

Confirmation No.: 5642

Dated: October 14, 2003

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED
OCT 21 2003
TC 1700

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated September 9, 2003, Applicants amend the
Application as follows: